

LYNCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE: **October 10, 2006**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 10

CONSENT:

REGULAR: **X**

CLOSED SESSION:

(Confidential)

ACTION: **X**

INFORMATION:

ITEM TITLE: **Transportation Enhancement Grant–Riverfront Park and Pedestrian Bridge Connection**

RECOMMENDATION: After a public hearing, adopt a resolution in support of a Transportation Enhancement Grant (SAFETEA-LU, formerly TEA-21) grant to fund a project for the downtown Riverfront Park and Pedestrian Connections to the James River.

SUMMARY: The next phase of the Downtown & Riverfront Master Plan 2000 calls for continued development of the Riverfront Park and related pedestrian connections to the James River. The City is seeking funding assistance through VDOT's SAFETEA program to begin the design and engineering of these improvements. Design and engineering fees are estimated to be \$480,000. The City will apply for a \$400,000 grant with a 20% local match of \$80,000.

Lynchburg's downtown Riverfront Park is a critical component of the Downtown & Riverfront Master Plan 2000. Lynchburg citizens have very limited access to the James River for recreation and observation. There are two boat launches (adjacent to Griffin Pipe and the Bike Rental) and there is a small access point for swimming on Percival's Island. Other than these locations, citizens and visitors cannot enjoy the James River in Lynchburg. Additional connections to the riverfront are a key component of the Riverfront Park for recreation, historic, and tourism purposes.

PRIOR ACTIONS:

The City has implemented initial phases of the Riverfront Park improvements as follows: 1) Jefferson Street Promenade, 2) Great Lawn, and 3) Depot Plaza.
September 5, 2006 Finance Committee

FISCAL IMPACT:

The City would be responsible for \$80,000, which is the required 20% local match. Funding for this match would come from the Downtown Redevelopment Project, FY 2007-2011 CIP, page 67.

Architectural & Engineering fees	\$480,000
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SAFETEA grant	\$400,000
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City 20% match	<u>\$ 80,000</u>
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TOTAL	\$480,000
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CONTACTS: Charles Grant – 455-3934

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution

REVIEWED BY: lkp

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in accordance with Commonwealth Transportation Board construction allocation procedures, it is necessary that a request by resolution be received from the local government or state agency in order that the Virginia Department of Transportation program an enhancement project in the City of Lynchburg,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Lynchburg requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board establish a project for the downtown Riverfront Park and Pedestrian Connections to the James River in Lynchburg, Virginia,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Lynchburg hereby agrees to pay a minimum 20% of the total cost of the project, and that, if the project is cancelled, the responsible entity hereby agrees to reimburse the Virginia Department of Transportation for the total amount of costs expended through the date the Department is notified of such cancellation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is authorized to sign the necessary documents for this project.

Adopted:

Certified:

Clerk of Council

138L